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SOURCE Rose al-Yusuf.RESULT OF NAJIB-SHISHAKLI MEETING

[Comment: The nature of the private talks between Egyptian Pre-
mier Muhammad Najib and Adib ash-Shishakli, Syria's strong man during
the latter's visit to Egypt in December was not made public. Specu-
lations concerning these talks, however, appeared in the Arabic press.
On 22 December 1952, the Cairo weekly periodical Rose al-Yusuf published
the following article by its Arab affairs correspondent.]

The lights are focused on the new plan for the unification of the Arab states.
The plan aims at the following:

1. Strengthening of relations among the Arab states by means of a liaison
system.

2. Unifying the foreign policies of the Arab states, strengthening their
efforts, and establishing some sort of constant liaison among the high commands
of their armies.

3. Strengthening and widening the scope of the Collective Security Pact
along lines similar to the NATO agreement which calls for absolute cooperation
among member states.

4. A minimum of restrictions on the means of liaison among the Arab states
so that all these states can become a sort of single "Arab nation."

5. Organizing of means of diplomatic liaison whereby Arab legations and
embassies would become mere "liaison offices" for conducting normal relations
and not for exchanging memoranda and issuing passports and visas.

6. Exchanging of experts and elimination of "regionalism" so the Arabs
would not feel any existing differences between a Syrian, Lebanese, an Egyptian,
an Iraqi, or a Jordanian, on the premise that all are "Arabs" working for the
benefit of "one Arab nation."

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I learned that the discussions between Premier Najib and Colonel Shishakli centered around these points, and that identical views were held on one point, which advocates the necessity of "safeguarding the Arab world," of securing it against "domestic troubles," and of following a unified policy aimed at strengthening morale, unity, and cordiality among all the Arab nations.

I can confirm further that what was agreed on would make the Collective Security Pact much wider in scope and fundamentally much stronger than it had been originally intended to be.

Important news will be issued during the next few months concerning the results of these discussions. This news will be of utmost significance, both in the Middle East itself, as well as abroad.

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